

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 02577 060443Z

ACTION PRS-01

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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FOR ASST SEC-DESIGNATE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS HODDING CARTER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR SECRETARY VANCE INTERVIEW

1. JIHAAD AL-KHAZEN, SENIOR EDITOR, LEADING ENGLISH-LANGUAGE DAILY, ARAB NEWS, PLANNING BE IN WASHINGTON O/A APRIL 10-16 FOR SERIES INTERVIEWS AND STORIES RELATED TO US/SAUDI RELATIONS AND UPCOMING VISIT CROWN PRINCE FAHD. HE ACCOMPANIED BY HISHAM HAFIZ, SAUDI CHAIRMAN AND GENERAL MANAGER OF ARAB NEWS PARENT COMPANY, THE SAUDI RESEARCH AND MARKETING CO.

2. AL-KHAZEN (EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, BEIRUT'S LEADING ENGLISH DAILY, THE DAILY STAR, UNTIL 1976 WHEN HE CAME TO KINGDOM AND B.A. AND M.A. GRADUATE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY BEIRUT) WISHES INTERVIEW SECRETARY VANCE DURING APR 10-16 PERIOD ON GENERAL THEMES MIDDLE EAST PEACE MOVEMENTS AND US RELATIONS WITH KINGDOM.

3. EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS SUCH INTERVIEW BE ARRANGED ARAB NEWS, UNDER AL-KHAZEN'S LEADERSHIP, HAS BECOME MOST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPREHENSIVE DAILY IN KINGDOM AND READ BY MANY SAUDIS DUE ITS APPARENT UNIQUE ABILITY OBTAIN USEFUL BACKGROUND STORIES AND ITS BROAD COVERAGE INTERNAL AFFAIRS. PAPER RECENTLY INITIATED WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT, TITLED SAUDI BUSINESS, WHICH IS ONLY SOURCE ANY LANGUAGE FOR INFORMATION ON WHO DOING WHAT IN RAPIDLY-EXPANDING PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS AND ON SAUDI GOVERNMENT PROCEDURES AND SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE.

4. PAPER'S EDITORIALS AND FEATURES PARTICULARLY HELPFUL
IN MAINTAINING THOUGHTFUL ANALYSIES OF COMPLEX US ROLE
IN MIDDLE EAST AND KINGDOM.

5. AL-KHAZEN NOTED FOR DOING HIS HOMEWORK AND HAS PREVIOUSLY
INTERVIEWED FORMER UNDER SEC SISCO AND FORMER SEC TREASURY
SIMON. HE FULLY COMPETENT AND RELIABLE.

6. AL-KHAZEN AND HAFIZ PLAN DEPART KINGDOM FOR LONDON APR 7
WHERE THEY WILL REMAIN UNTIL PROCEEDING US O/A
APRIL 10. WE HAVE LONDON CONTACT WHO CAN PASS ON
RESULTS THIS REQUEST TO THEM VIA AMEMBASSY LONDON.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

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